

Fall, 2002

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September 17: Hopkins and the Poor of Baltimore

William Henry Welch, "Sanitation In Relation to the Poor [1891]," in W.H. Welch, Papers and Addresses. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins Press, 1920, vol. 1, 588-598.

Study Questions:

- 1) What is the relation between poverty and health, according to Welch? How do we understand the relation today?
- 2) What does one do about the poor, according to Welch? According to you?
- 3) What group is Welch addressing? Who are they?

September 24: Sex and the City

Elizabeth Fee, "Sin vs. Science: Venereal Disease in Baltimore in the 20th Century," Journal of the History of Medicine and Allied Sciences 43 (1988), 141-154.

J. Whitridge Williams, "The Significance of Syphilis in Prenatal Care and in the Causation of Foetal Death," Bulletin of the Johns Hopkins Hospital 31 (1920), 141-144.

"Outbreak of Primary and Secondary Syphilis--Baltimore City, Maryland, 1995," MMWR 45 (1996), 166-169.

Study Questions:

- 1) What was the medical assessment of venereal disease in the 1920s and 1930s? What is the assessment today?
- 2) What is the medical role in managing sexually transmitted diseases? How would you control STD's?

October 1: The Urban Environment: Lead

Elizabeth Fee, "Public Health in Practice: An Early Confrontation with the 'Silent Epidemic' of Childhood Lead Pain Poisoning," Journal of the History of Medicine and Allied Sciences 45 (October, 1990), 570-606.

State of Maryland, Court of Appeals, no. 128, Grimes vs. Kennedy Krieger Institute [<http://www.courts.state.md.us/opinions/coa/2001/128a00.pdf>]

Study Questions:

- 1) What is the "lead" problem? How was it understood in the 1930s and 1940s? How is it understood today?
- 2) What can one do about the lead problem, according to Judge Cathell?

October 8: Segregation and Desegregation

Edward H. Beardsley, "Goodbye to Jim Crow: The Desegregation of Southern Hospitals, 1945-1970," Bulletin of the History of Medicine 60 (Fall, 1986), 367-386.

Louise Cavagnaro, A History of Segregation and Desegregation at the Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions (1992).

Study Questions:

- 1) What kind of health care did African-Americans get in the 1930s, 1940s and 1950s?
- 2) On what basis is health care allocated today?

October 15: Hopkins as Employer

Gregg L. Michel, "'Union Power, Soul Power': Unionizing Johns Hopkins University Hospital, 1959-1974," Labor History 38 (Winter, 1996-1997), 28-66.

Study Questions:

- 1) What is Hopkins' role in the community, other than as a provider of health care?
- 2) What should Hopkins' role be?

PHYSICIAN AND SOCIETY

DISEASE: HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVES

Fall, 2000

Ideas and practices concerning disease are influenced by a wide variety of factors, including economic interests, religious beliefs, political values, medical science, technology and institutions. Through a series of case studies, we will examine changing concepts of disease over the past 150 years. Topics covered range from cholera in colonial India to the impact of insulin on the lives of 20th century diabetics. Readings include a combination of source materials and historical articles.

September 19: Introduction

Owsei Temkin, "The Scientific Approach to Disease: Specific Entity and Individual Sickness," in Owsei Temkin, The Double Face of Janus. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1977, 441-455.

Study Questions:

1. What is Temkin's distinction between an ontological and physiological concept of disease? Is this distinction relevant today? How?
2. What kind of concepts underlie the following conditions: hypertension? myocardial infarction? hypoglycemia? cystic fibrosis? HIV-infected? AIDS?

September 26: Science and Politics: Cholera

Snow on Cholera, ed. B.W. Richardson (New York: The Commonwealth Fund, 1936), esp. pp. 1-23, 38-59, 71-92, 111-125, 133-137.

David Arnold, "Cholera and Colonialism in British India," Past & Present 113 (November, 1986), 118-151.

Study Questions:

1. What is Snow trying to explain? How does he do it?
2. What are the connections between cholera and colonialism, according to David Arnold?

October 3: Science and Politics: Typhoid and TB

"Discussion on the Advisability of the Registration of Tuberculosis," Transactions of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia 16 (1894), 1-27.

Judith Walzer Leavitt, "'Typhoid Mary' Strikes Back: Bacteriological Theory and Practice in Early Twentieth-Century Public Health," Isis 83 (December, 1992), 608-629.

Study Questions:

1. On what basis did physicians object to registration? What role was played by their concepts of the disease? their view of the physician's role? other social attitudes?

2. How was "Typhoid Mary" managed and why? How should she have been managed?

3. Given the "Typhoid Mary" case, whose side would you take in the Philadelphia case?

October 10: Diseases, Cures and Patients. Diabetes

Chris Feudtner, "The Want of Control: Ideas, Innovations and Ideals in the Modern Management of Diabetes Mellitus," Bulletin of the History of Medicine 69 (Spring, 1995), 66-90.

The Diabetes Control and Complications Trial Research Group, "The Effect of Intensive Treatment of Diabetes on the Development and Progression of Long-term Complications in Insulin-Dependent Diabetes," New England Journal of Medicine 329 (September 30, 1993), 977-986.

Harry M. Marks, On Diabetes (1991).

Study Questions:

1. What were the effects of insulin on diabetics?#

October 17: The Genetic Vision

Archibald E. Garrod, Garrod's Inborn Factors In Disease, ed. Charles R. Scriver and Barton Childs (New York: Oxford University Press, 1989), pp. 39-52, 96-122, 145-157.

Sheryl Gay Stolberg, "Concern Among Jews Is Heightened As Scientists Deepen Gene Studies," New York Times April 22, 1998.

Neil Holtzman and Theresa M. Marteau, "Will Genetics Revolutionize Medicine?," New England Journal of Medicine 343 (July 13, 2000), 141-144.

Study Questions:

1. What can genetics tell us about our biological futures?
(What can't it tell us?)
2. What do we want to know about our biological futures?